

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /058 W

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O 141017Z JUN 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2954

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0837

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO VISIT BERBERJR

REF: STATE 138801

1. I MADE FORMAL REQUEST OF MOFA MORNING OF JUNE 14 FOR PERMISSION TO VISIT BERBERA WITHIN NEXT TWO TO THREE DAYS. FONSEC OMAR ARTEH AND DIRECTOR GENERAL ABDURAHMAN BARRE WERE UNABLE SEE ME UNTIL JUNE 15. IN INTERESTS OF SPEED, I MADE REQUEST OF HASSAN KAID, HEAD OF EURO-AMERICAN DEPT.

2. I TOLD HASSAN KAID THAT I WOULD EXPECT SEE ALL AREAS IN VICINITY OF BERBERA WITHOUT RESTRICTION AND THAT THIS REQUEST WAS CONSISTENT WITH SPIRIT OF INVITATION EXTENDED BY FONSEC OMAR ARTEH JUNE 11. INASMUCH AS SOMALI AIRLINE FLIGHT DEPARTS MOGADISCIO FOR HARGEISA SUNDAY JUNE 15 AND NEXT FLIGHT NOT RPT NOT UNIL TUESDAY, JUNE 17, I URGED MOFA GRANT PERMISSION WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED.

3. HASSAN KAID SAID HE WOULD BRING REQUEST IMMEDIATELY TO ATTENTION OF OMAR ARTEH AND MOFA WOULD CONTACT OTHER CONCERNED GSDR OFFICIALS TO GRANT TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE PROMISED CONTACT ME MORNING OF JUNE 15.

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4. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE THAT MOFA
WILL ARRANGE APPROVAL FOR BERBERA VISIT BY TUESDAY, JUNE 17. EVEN
IF APPROVAL QUICKLY OBTAINED, THEN TRANSPORTATION BECOMES A PROBLEM
(AIR CHARTER APPEARS TO BE ONLY FEASIBLE MENAS). FINAL APPROVAL WILL
DEPEND UPON MINDEFENSE AND NATIONAL SECURITY SERVICE, IF NOT
PRESIDENCY ITSELF. FACT THAT WE WISH MAKE TRIP WITHIN NEXT TWO OR
THREE DAYS WILL RAISE SOMALI SUSPICIONS THAT WE KNOW SOMETHING THEY
DON'T. IN SHORT, NOTWITHSTANDING OMAR ARTEH'S OPEN INVITATION OF
JUNE 11, CARDS ARE VERY HEAVILY STACKED AGAINST US AT THIS TIME.
HAMRICK

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Message Attributes

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